



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: June 6, 2007

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V(o): Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 1 funds to acquire APN 5565-027-007 in Chapter 8 Agreement 2531 and adding said parcel to the final Engineer's Report, Laurel Canyon, Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the use of Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 funds to acquire APN 5565-027-007 in Laurel Canyon and adding said parcel to the final Engineer's Report.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) commonly enters into Chapter 8 Agreements with Los Angeles County to acquire tax defaulted properties. This process is an essential component of the agency's Benefit Assessment District efforts.

The County has provided an Agreement to sign. Chapter 8 Agreement Number 2531 contains a 0.17 acre parcel in Laurel Canyon, in the City of Los Angeles. This single parcel, APN 5565-027-007, cost approximately \$9,000 and is adjacent to a cluster of MRCA properties. In order for the County Treasurer and Tax Collector to finalize these agreements, the MRCA must provide a resolution authorizing the acquisition of the parcels. The Citizens Oversight Committee approved the acquisition in December 2006, and recommended that the property be added to the Final Engineers Report.

This parcel in Laurel Canyon will add to the viewshed quality along the east side of Laurel Canyon Boulevard. It is part of the wildlife corridor between Laurel Canyon and Nichols Canyon. The parcel is located within Area D of the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 1.